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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

SELECTMEN

—AND—

TREASURER

OF THE

TOWN OF SULLIVAN,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

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1881.

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REPORT OF
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Sullivan:

Having endeavored faithfully to perform the duties of his office, your Committee submits the following report of the condition of the schools:

DISTRICT NO. 1.

HENRY DAVIS, COMMITTEE.

The Spring Term of 5 weeks, which was in session at the commencement of the year, as also the Summer term of 8 weeks, were both taught by Miss Clara S. Nims, of Roxbury, a teacher of much experience. There were 20 and 23 scholars. Good feeling prevailed. The schools passed pleasantly. The reading was good. Some of the lessons were well learned, and others not as thoroughly as we could wish, but the scholars had not been inspired with that life and energy that secure the best success.

The Fall and Winter terms were taught by Miss Gertie Tolman, of Nelson. There were 15 weeks in all; the Winter school was the largest in town for the year, there being 29 scholars.

The attendance was very irregular, there being an unpardonable number of absences both terms. There was

not that sympathy manifest between the parents and teacher that there should be, and which is necessary for the best interests of a school.

Although we should not approve of all the methods adopted, yet the recitations showed a fair degree of interest and improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Samuel S. White, Committee.

There were 18 weeks of School in this District, 8 in the Summer and 10 in the Winter, with 18 and 28 scholars respectively. There was not a single instance of tardiness in the Summer, but in the Winter there was a large number—some of which were excusable, and also many absences, which are an unavoidable injury to any school.

The teacher of both terms was Miss Ada M. Farwell, of Harrisville. We noticed in particular a thoroughness in the explanation of the principles, and a careful pronunciation in reading; but other of the recitations were lacking in promptness and energy; a little more quietness would be desirable. Your Committee feels confident that the interest in a school will be lessened as outside influences are admitted, and that time spent in preparation for exhibitions will impair a good school.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

R. A. Dunn, Committee.

The school in this District was small, there being but 9 scholars. There were two terms, Summer and Fall, of 9 weeks each. The attendance was very good. Both terms were taught by Mrs. R. A. Dunn, of this town. The Summer school passed pleasantly, the teacher gaining the good will of the scholars. The examination showed lessons well learned, and manifested promptness

on the part of the scholars. General satisfaction was given. At the close of the Fall term some of the recitations were well learned, yet the general appearance of the school was not as good as the previous term.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

PERRY E. KEMP, COMMITTEE.

Both Summer and Fall terms were taught by Miss Abbie H. Grimes, of Keene. The Summer school was not as successful and satisfactory as it should have been, but by a little more energy and thoroughness the Fall school appeared well. The parents were lacking in interest for the welfare of the school. The instances of tardiness were few, but there were too many absences.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

GEORGE M. BOWEN, COMMITTEE.

The Summer term was 8 weeks in length, and was taught by Miss Lila H. Mason, of this town. There were but 10 scholars. This was her first school. The scholars seemed interested, and the teacher labored faithfully. The lessons were all well learned, the answers promptly given, and the examination was creditable to all concerned.

In the Fall there were 10 weeks of school, with 14 scholars, in care of Miss Mabel H. Farrar, of this town. The attendance was not as regular as in the Summer, yet the school closed quite satisfactorily, and showed the term well spent, with good success attending their efforts. Some of the scholars here have made good improvement during the past year. The parents have shown good interest in the school.

Another year with its privileges improved, or its opportunities wasted and lost, has just closed and is added

to the long list of the past. As we stand upon the threshhold of the new year, the point of time that separates the past and future, we naturally turn a parting glance as the year recedes, and always heave a sigh as the curtain is drawn which shuts it from our view. Its account is made up, unchanegable, and we can only know it as we read it in its influences on the future.

We have an influence, an influence that will be felt for generations to come. We are not isolated beings, but parts of a mighty nation, a nation of which we may justly be proud; a people great in wealth, and noble institutions, whose principles were planted by our fathers, and fostered by the blood of our sons and brothers, and upon us rests the responsibility of helping perpetuate these institutions. Our influences, crossing and recrossing each other like the warp and wool of a fabric, help to build up all that is good and noble, or encourage selfishness and strengthen our lower natures; and how can we better accomplish the desired end than by raising the standard of our common schools? See to it that right habits are formed and right principles are instilled, that will go on strengthening each day until they form a mighty barrier that can not be broken down.

Even the children should be taught that they have responsibilities resting upon them.

Our schools are what we make them; successful if we are faithful, carefully watching and jealously guarding them, and giving them our hearty encouragement and support. Harmony of effort and unity of action (like the complex parts of a nicely balanced machine moving on smoothly in its operations), will accomplish the desired result. Teachers with minds well stored, devoted and self-sacrificing, are what we need and what we feel we must have, and our committees should exercise care in their selection. During the past year we have supported

five schools, with an aggregate of 112 weeks schooling. The longest school has been 28 weeks, and the shortest, 18. The amount of money expended is a little more than $589.00. Some of the schools have been quite small, the smallest, of 8 scholars. If some means for uniting the schools could be adopted, and thus having larger and longer schools, we think it might be for their interest, but the scholars are so much scattered, perhaps it would not be practicable. Unnecessary expense in regard to text books we would discourage, but at the present time it seems very desirable, and for the best interests of the schools, that there should be a change, especially in readers. In some of our schools we find a very large number of absences; they are an injustice to our scholars. Punctuality on the part of the scholars, is as important as thoroughness on the part of the teacher.

A hearty co-operation of the parents and teachers, are indispensable. We say as we have said before, support your teacher until you find just cause for her removal, then do it promptly, but never from any other cause withhold your support. In some respects we feel that our schools have not accomplished all that they might. We do not say that they do not compare favorably with other years, but that they have not accomplished all that they might have done. We want to learn to think—to think for ourselves—and to be independent. Learn the reason why, as also the application of the principles we have learned. We want our children educated as well as learned, and let us with united purpose, lend our whole influence to accomplish the desired result.

Respectfully,

ALANSON A. NIMS,

Superintending School Committee.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

We, the undersigned, Selectmen of Sullivan, submit the following financial report for the year ending March 1st, 1881:

APPROPRIATIONS

AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING IN MARCH, 1880.

Support of schools,	$600 00
Repair of highways and bridges,	400 00
To defray town charges,	1 00
Amount of State tax,	480 00
Amount of County tax,	315 73
Rate per cent. on 100 dollars, money tax,	72
" " " highway tax,	21

APRIL INVOICE, 1880.

Resident valuation,	$162,687 00
Non-resident valuation,	25,777 00
Total,	$188,464 00
Number of polls, 104.	
Amount of money tax assessed,	$1,432 89
Amount of dog tax,	16 00
School house tax in District No. 2,	14 54

AMOUNT OF SCHOOL MONEY TO EACH DISTRICT, INCLUDING LITERARY FUND.

District No. 1,	$153 37
" 2,	152 61
" 3,	105 58
" 4,	97 32
" 5,	94 43

AMOUNT OF SCHOOL MONEY DRAWN BY EACH DISTRICT.

District No. 1,	$182 25
" 2,	152 61
" 3,	95 00
" 4,	97 32
" 5,	87 75

BILLS PAID.

Atwell C. Ellis, Town Clerk, 1879,	$15 50
Lyman C. Davis, Selectman for 1879,	46 00
Henry C. Rawson, " "	29 90
Edward E. Rugg, " "	24 25
Amos Wardwell, Treasurer,	15 00
Alanson A. Nims, Superintending School Committee,	25 00
Mason A. Nims, Agent Town Farm,	5 00
Leslie H. Goodnow, Auditor,	1 00

PAID FOR EXTRA LABOR ON HIGHWAY.

E. C. Winchester,	$ 7 40
A. A. Nims,	10 36
Almon P. Tyler,	4 62
John Locke,	14 59
D. M. Burpee,	9 00
Alonzo Farrar,	25 06
Mason A. Nims,	4 00
Marshal J. Barrett,	1 34
Daniel M. Burpee,	9 00
F. A. Wilson,	7 50
E. H. Taft,	22 30

PAID FOR BUILDING AND REPAIRING BRIDGES.

Goodnow Bros., repairing bridge,	$59 00
A. N. Wilder, bridge stringers, and timber,	25 00
Henry Davis, labor on bridge,	6 33
E. H. Taft, " "	6 75
G.S. Kingsbury, " "	5 25

Lyman Davis, labor on bridge,						$ 9	02
D. W. Rugg, " "						15	10
A. N. Wilder, " "							75
" "	838 feet bridge plank, at				$11 50	9	63
A. A. Ellis,	874 "	"	"		11 00	9	61
Goodnow Bros.,	3384 "	"	"		11 50	38	91
Henry C. Rawson,	139 "	"	"		10 00	1	39
F. A. Wilson,	160 "	"	"		8 00	1	30

MAKING PATHS IN DEEP SNOW.

T. A. Hastings,	$ 3	90
Mrs. R. Seward,		90
M. W. & C. W. Hubbard,	2	25
John Locke,	9	08
T. S. Richardson,	46	11
M. J. Barrett,	3	68
Alonzo Farrar,	17	24
Lorenzo W. Mason,	3	00
J. B. Seward,	4	62
Amos Wardwell,	12	53
Albert G. Nims,	9	75
F. A. Wilson,	47	80
E. H. Taft,	3	15
George M. Bowen,	10	50
R. A. Dunn,	6	90

INCIDENTALS.

Lyman Davis, for General Laws,	$ 5	00
W. H. Spalter, stationery,	2	98
Sentinel Printing Co., printing town reports,	15	00
Batchelder & Faulkner, retaining fee for 1879,	6	00
A. A. Ellis, bounty on hawks,		80
Cyrus Bemis, " "		20
James Mann, damages received on highway,	5	00
G. A. Litchfield, County tax for 1880,	315	73
S. S. White, coffin,	5	00

Roxana Wood, coffin,	$5 00
Mrs. James C. Abbott, two coffins,	10 00
E. C. Winchester, coffin,	5 00
G. S. Kingsbury, damage by teams crossing fields,	1 00
George Kingsbury, witness fee,	2 00
Alonzo Farrar, wood furnished the town,	3 75
Jewett Morse, cleaning stovepipe, &c.,	1 00
Solon A. Carter, State tax,	480 00
Edwin J. Dunn, bounty on hawk,	20
J. N. Nims, services as sexton,	23 50
M. J. Barrett, collecting taxes for 1879,	30 00
Daniel W. Goodnow, " " 1875,	28 58
George White, " " 1878,	35 00
Daniel M. Burpee, poles and posts for railing,	12 62
Knowlton & Stone, spikes " "	1 00
Henry Davis, labor on railing,	1 35

LYMAN DAVIS,
HENRY C. RAWSON,
EDWARD E. RUGG,
Selectmen of Sullivan.

REPORT OF AGENT OF TOWN FARM.

Income for 1880,		$74 00
Money paid out,	$2 00	
Labor,	6 00	
Tax for 1880,	2 97	
		$10 97
Balance,		$63 03

MASON A. NIMS, *Agent.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Sullivan, March 1, 1881.

Amos Wardwell, in account with the town of Sullivan as Treasurer for the past year:

By cash and uncollected taxes,	$1,245 55
By proceeds of old town records,	32 00
By savings bank tax of 1880,	558 56
By literary fund of 1880,	32 75
By grass around the town hall for 1880,	4 00
By bounty on hawks from State treasury,	1 00
By interest on taxes of 1878,	19 49
By interest on taxes of 1879,	18 65
By interest on the town's money,	2 00
By proceeds of town farm,	63 03
By taxes of 1880,	$1,517 57
	$3,494 60
Amount of orders paid,	$2,331 49
Uncollected taxes,	525 11
Cash to balance,	638 00
	$3,494 60

AMOS WARDWELL, *Treasurer.*

Sullivan, Feb. 28, 1881.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above report, and find it correct.

LESLIE H. GOODNOW, *Auditor.*

Sullivan, March 1, 1881.

Amos Wardwell, as Treasurer, having settled with the Selectmen and found in my hands the first day of March, 1881, $1,163 11

Estimated outstanding accounts, 414 00

$749 11

AMOS WARDWELL, *Treasurer.*

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing settlement, and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

LESLIE H. GOODNOW, *Auditor.*

TABULAR STATEMENT.

No. of District.	TERMS.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Wages of Teacher per month, including board.	No. of Weeks School.	No. of Scholars.	Average No. of Scholars.	Average Daily Attendance.	No. of Scholars Not Absent.	Absences.	Instances of Tardiness.	Visits by Parents and Citizens.	Amount of School Money.	Amount of Teachers' Salaries.	Incidental Expenses.	Amount Not Expended.
1,	Spring,	Clara S. Nims,	$27.00	5	20	18.–	17	7	63	2	20	$182.26	$33.75	$6.10	$29.44
	Summer,	Clara S. Nims,	27.00	8	23	21.–	20	10	27	4	10		52.00		
	Fall,	Gertie Tolman,	26.00	7	27	22.–	25.–	3	152	0	14		45.50		
	Winter,	Gertie Tolman,	26.00	8	29	21.–	25.–	5	284	0	14		52.00		
2,	Summer,	Ada Farwell,	27.00	8	18	16.–	16.–	12	36	0	23	152.61	54.00		3.00
	Winter,	Ada Farwell,	30.00	10	28	25.–	23.–	11	98	43	15		75.00		
3,	Summer,	Mrs. R. A. Dunn,	20.00	9	8	7.–	7.–	6	14	5	15	105.58	44.00	4.00	12.68
	Fall,	Mrs. R. A. Dunn,	20.00	9	9	8.–	8.–	5	11	2	11		44.00		
4,	Summer,	Abbie H. Grimes,	18.00	10	13	12.–	11.–	3	85	0	17	97.32	45.00	2.58	
	Fall,	Abbie H. Grimes,	18.00	10	13	11.–	11.–	1	89	3	10		45.00		
5,	Summer,	Lila H. Mason,	16.00	8	10	10	9.–	1	60	1	17	94.43	32.50	4.75	
	Fall,	Mabel H. Farrar,	20.00	10	14	12	11.–	1	83	29	12		50.00		

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